

Forest Protection In Kentucky

Much Progress Made In This Work In Last Few Years

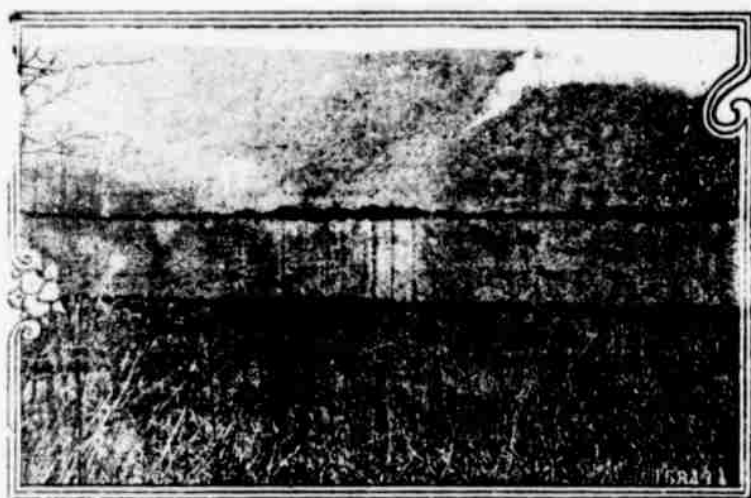
ALTHOUGH a bill was passed by the General Assembly in March, 1912, and approved by the governor providing for a state board of forestry and the appointment of a state forester, it was not until the 1st of September, 1912, that the work was actually put on foot, since at this time a state forester was appointed and took up the duties of his office. It was very clear in the beginning of the work that forest protection was the feature which should receive the greatest emphasis, especially protection from forest fires, which have been and are the greatest enemy to the destruction of the timber in the entire state; consequently a fire plan was outlined by the state board of forestry and has since been followed on. The fire plan was made possible by the cooperation possible with the federal government under the Weeks law, whereby \$1000 were made available to the state for the protection of watersheds at the heads of navigable streams, contingent upon the expenditure of a like sum by the state. The manner in which this fire protection could be secured centered itself around a county fire patrol system under which county forest wardens were appointed in various counties in the state where there was a large amount of timber and also where the demands of the community itself justified the paying of such an officer. In view of the fact that a large bulk of the timber of Kentucky at the present time, especially the most valuable stands, is in the eastern and southeastern part of the state the county forestwardens so far appointed have been largely confined to this region.

Up to the present time the number of patrolmen employed during any fire

has been a strong argument for the formation of like organizations in other counties in the state. At the present time there are nearly 200,000 acres enrolled in this association, and they include practically all the timberland owners in Harlan county. Approximately 15,000 acres were added to the acreage of the association last spring after one of the severest fire seasons which the state has ever experienced, which shows that the work has been effective in a measure to secure the confidence of the timberland owners in that region. The most ambitious effort for the formation of a forest fire protective association is that put on foot last spring, which embraces four counties in Kentucky and two in Virginia. This effort was initiated by the Consolidation Coal company. The four counties of Kentucky embraced in this organization are Pike, Letcher, Floyd and Knox and the two counties in Virginia Wise and Dickenson. The last two counties to undertake such an organization are Leslie and Clay, so that the southeastern part of the state is in a fair way to be entirely covered with associations.

It must be borne in mind that these associations are purely voluntary, are composed of timberland owners, lessees, etc., and are administered locally. The severity of the fires which occurred in Kentucky last spring, on account of the drought early in the season, has been a decided incentive to the formation of like associations in other counties, with two ideas in mind: first, the protection of the standing timber, and, second, organized effort to suppress forest fires by the punishment in court of individuals who, through carelessness, neglect or willfulness, have caused fires on timberlands. There is every reason to

A Forest Fire In the Mountains



Forest fires destroy thousands of dollars' worth of timber every year and are largely preventable.

season has averaged about twenty-five, paid partly from federal funds and partly from state funds. These patrolmen were employed only in the season of the year during which danger from fires might be expected. This period of employment has averaged approximately two months in the spring and the same amount in the fall, and the patrolmen have been paid during the time of their appointment \$2 per day for the time actually spent by them in work. The duties of these patrolmen were to suppress and prevent forest fires, as far as they could, in the counties in which they were appointed and also by personal contact with the people in the county to point out to them the danger from forest fires in the destruction of timber, buildings, fences and other valuable products, and also to emphasize the fact that a large per cent of the forest fires which occurred were due to causes which could have been eliminated with care on the part of the individuals. The work of the county wardens has been inspected once in three weeks, as nearly as possible, by the district wardens, and the whole work has been inspected by the United States forest service. The danger season for forest fires ordinarily is for a period of three months in the spring, Feb. 15 to May 15, and for a period of three months in the fall, Sept. 15 to Dec. 15, but the patrolmen were only under appointment and paid for the actual time during which fires might be expected because of the climatic conditions existing at the time. It was soon evident that, while the county patrolmen were accomplishing a considerable amount of effective work, nevertheless even one patrolman in each county where there was a large amount of timber would not secure the necessary amount of forest protection. Consequently the next step was to secure the cooperation of the timberland owners by organizing associations, since it was felt that only in the event that timberland owners became financially interested in the matter of forest protection of their own lands and supplemented the funds of the state by funds of their own to be expended in forest protective measures could a permanent good be accomplished in this direction.

Under this plan the first county in the state to be organized was Harlan county, and the success of the Forest Protective association in this county has been so remarkable and its growth and effectiveness so conspicuous that it

believe that like associations will be formed in several other counties before the danger season for fires in the fall. A strong sentiment of this character in Lewis county recently accomplished the organization of an association, and there is every probability that more associations in the immediate future will be formed, due to the same sentiment.

FOREST UTILIZATION.

Kentucky Forests a Big Item in Industrial Life.

Kentucky forests play a big part in the industrial life of the state, and not only for the amount of timber they produce, which, according to the last figures of the census available, was 941,266,000 feet, board measure, and it is of interest to point out the direction in which the forests of the state are of vital importance to various interests. The capital invested in logging and milling operations in one year (1910) was \$21,381,000 and the average number of wage earners 13,042 (five times as many as are employed in the distilled liquor business, which heads the list in value of products). The number of active sawmills in Kentucky, according to the last census (1913), was 1,061. The railroads are one of the greatest users of timber in the United States. The timber demanded by them is mostly in the shape of cross-ties, telephone and telegraph poles, material for car building, etc. It is safe to say, from the best figures obtainable, that over 2,000,000 cross-ties were purchased by the railroads in Kentucky in 1914. Another great industry which is in its infancy in Kentucky, which consumes large quantities of wood products, is the mining industry, especially the coal mining industry, and it is for this reason that in the coal mining regions of the eastern part of the state the state forester has met with the heartiest co-operation in an endeavor to suppress the forest fires.

The timber used in the mines is in the form of lagging, stulls, props, ties and lumber for the construction of buildings of various sorts. It is figured that from three to four feet, board measure, are used for each ton of coal mined. Kentucky now ranks fifth among the states in the production of coal. In 1914 over 20,000,000 tons were mined. The telephone, telegraph and electric light and power companies use a large amount of timber in the shape of poles, posts, etc.

L. & N. Time Table

NORTH BOUND	
No. 12 Daily, except Sunday.....	1:52 p. m.
No. 22 Daily, due.....	10:14 a. m.
No. 24 Daily, due.....	11:44 p. m.
SOUTH BOUND	
No. 11 Daily, except Sunday.....	6:43 a. m.
No. 21 Daily, due.....	3:30 a. m.
No. 23 Daily, due.....	3:58 p. m.

Cumberland R. R. Company

TIME TABLE	
South Bound.	
TRAINS:—	DAILY
No. 3, Lve. Artemus.....	10:15 a. m.
No. 3, Lve. Artemus.....	4:15 p. m.
No. 35, Lve. " Sundays.....	7:30 a. m.
No. 37, Lve. " Sundays.....	4:28 p. m.
North Bound.	
No. 4, Arr. Artemus.....	1:20 p. m.
No. 6, Arr. Artemus.....	6:35 p. m.
No. 36, Arr. " Sunday.....	9:40 a. m.
No. 38, Arr. " Sunday.....	6:30 p. m.

W. B. FARKE, Gen. Pass Agt.
T. H. HAYDEN, Gen. Mgr.

Professional Cards.



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Phones: Office 26, Res. 96,
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LAWYER
Office with J. M. Robsion, over
First National Bank
Barbourville, Kentucky

J. E. FAULKNER
DENTIST
Office: Knox St., over store of T.
F. Faulkner & Co.
Barbourville, Kentucky

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LAWYER
Office over First National Bank
Barbourville, Kentucky

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TRUTH.

When you're in doubt and are about
To murder Truth by lying,
I'd have you then, ere you begin
To set your words to flying,
Remember that the time you give
To a second thought is a falsehood
reive.

With a second thought there's a
miracle wrought,
Your Conscience rises up;
Do not push her aside for she will
abide
To make you drink the cup,
O, soul, take heed ere the lie is sped
And be on by your Conscience led!

With Conscience clear, you'll have
no fear
Of night by day or night;
And you will stand by your fellow
man;
And say with me, " 'Tis right,
One truth is worth ten thousand lies
Even though that truth mean
sacrifice."

Contributed.

ARE YOU EDUCATED?

A professor of the University of Chicago has evolved a series of test questions for the educated which, he avows, are the best evidences of a real education. If you can answer "yes" to all the questions you are truly educated the professor says. Here are the questions:

Has education given you sympathy with all the good causes and made you espouse them?

Has it made you public spirited?

Has it made you a brother to the weak?

Have you learned how to make friends and keep them?

Do you know what it is to be a friend yourself?

Can you look an honest man or pure woman in the eye?

Do you see anything to love in a little child?

Will a lonely dog follow you in the street?

Can you be high-minded and happy in the meanest drudgeries of life?

Do you think that washing dishes and hoeing corn is just as compatible with high thinking as piano playing or golf?

Are you good for anything yourself?

Can you be happy alone?

Can you look out on the world and see anything but dollars and cents?

Can you look into a mud-puddle by the wayside and see a clear sky?

Can you see anything in the puddle but mud?

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You can get the same results, if it is not convenient for you to come to the Springs, right at your home, as we ship the water with full directions, excepting rheumatic cases; they must come to Springs to get well. Be sure to write for our free booklet.

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DRY RIDGE, KENTUCKY

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WRITE FOR RESERVATIONS

GATHERING TREE SEEDS

An Infant Industry in Kentucky Developed by State Nurseries.

The experience in growing trees at the State nursery has shown very clearly that in a great many cases it is not possible to get tree seeds of the native species at the time and in the condition desired. Kentucky is peculiar in that up to very recently there has been no agency or individual interested in the gathering of tree seed in its borders. The demand for the tree seeds in the State nurseries at Louisville and Frankfort has started in a small way a new industry in the gathering of tree seeds within the State. Last year a considerable portion of the seed planted was obtained from Kentucky. Several small boys had become interested in this line of work and gathered a considerable quantity of seed of certain varieties. It is expected this fall that the bulk of the seed planted in the State nurseries will be obtained within the State from native varieties. The gathering of tree seed offers an attractive field for a limited number of individuals, particularly bright boys, who are willing to take the time and trouble necessary to distinguish tree species.

INTEREST IN SHADE TREES

State Forester Prepared to Answer Questions With Regard to Shade Trees.

With every passing year the interest of the citizens of Kentucky in the shade trees of the cities, towns and villages, along public highways and on private lands and estates has become more keen for the reason that our people as a whole are gradually coming to an appreciation of the worth of individual trees and of tree communities from an aesthetic point of view, and are alive to their value as factors for health and comfort in the community. This is a natural development in line with an awakening public interest in parks, public playgrounds, better roads and highways and the development of attractive surroundings on the farm. In all this the trees play a very important part. Then, too, throughout the state the present shade trees, which are to a very considerable extent remnants of the original forest, are decaying, deteriorating and dying. Their owners are interested most decidedly in their preservation, if possible.

FOREST TAXATION

One of the most important factors in connection with the growing of trees for commercial purposes is the matter of taxation, and this is a matter which so far as Kentucky is concerned, has had little attention. In the first place, there is no classification of land within the State for taxation purposes. It is a generally accepted theory among experts in this matter at the present time that there is only one fair method of taxation which may be applied to land maintained by the owner in forest growth and that is that there should be a tax placed on the land which shall be an annual tax, and another tax placed on the forest crop when it is harvested. In no other manner does it seem probable that reforestation of suitable areas throughout the State may be accomplished, since in the first place, on account of the character of the investment the owner of the land must be assured before hand just what his taxes on the land are to be, and in the second place the risks attendant upon the raising of a forest crop, because of the long period of years before it reaches maturity, make it essential that the crop of forest products shall be taxed at maturity when it is harvested, rather than that an annual tax shall be imposed. Certain States have already gone a long way in this direction and Pennsylvania has recently passed three laws dealing with the matter of forest taxation and the classification of forest land which embrace the best features of, recent thought on this subject. The essentials of the recent Pennsylvania laws are as follows:

sible, and their replacement if this must be done. Again within recent years the increase of insect pests and fungus diseases due to the introduction of new species and varieties from foreign countries and the importation of European nursery stock has caused widespread comment. Insect infestations among our tree friends, a condition which has been emphasized by the lack of natural enemies to keep them in check and a notable decrease in our native birds that prey on insects, have been of frequent occurrence. In cities the paving of streets, construction of sidewalks, laying of sewers and gas and water mains, conduits for electric light, telephone and telegraph wires all have very seriously disturbed natural conditions, and endangered the life of the shade trees.

While it is realized that the care and protection of shade trees is not strictly within the province of forestry, yet requests for information in this direction have continually come to the office of the State Forester.

The State Forester is prepared to answer inquiries for information by mail with regard to shade trees—particularly what species to plant, the injuries and diseases to which they are subject, and to offer remedies for these. The First Biennial Report of the State Forester deals with this subject of shade trees in detail and may be obtained free of charge by addressing him at Frankfort.

EXPERIMENTAL FOREST.

Permanent Exhibit at the State Fair in Louisville.

In conjunction with the forest nurseries at Louisville, there is being established an experimental forest which will also be a permanent exhibit in connection with the State Fair. It is expected in this experimental forest to show on a small scale what may be done on any farm in Kentucky in the way of raising wood material, and will be of undoubted interest to farmers and others who have already wood lots on their land or expect to plant them either for the material or for the purpose of soil fixation and regeneration. This forest will be situated on the bank of the Ohio river, and, in addition to furnishing a demonstration of what can be done in the way of practical forestry, it will also afford a wind-break for the state nursery, and will serve to hold the bank of the Ohio river in its present place.

1. Classification of suitable land set aside by the owner for forest purposes as auxiliary forest reserves.

2. Agreement with the State to maintain such land in forest growth and penalties for failure to carry out agreement.

3. Assessment of land classified as auxiliary forest reserves at \$1.00 per acre annual tax.

4. Payment by owner of 10 per cent of the value of the forest products when harvested to the county to be distributed among the proper county funds.

5. Fixed charge on auxiliary forest reserve land of two cents per acre for schools and two cents per acre for roads.

Under these provisions it is obvious that the growing of timber on suitable areas would be reduced to a practical business basis.

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